1996

Spring

NCNA *Journal*

N.C. N.A.

JOURNAL

SPRING 1996

NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

1996 Board

Will Jordan
President

Halbert Carmichael
1st V . Pres

Forrest Michael
2nd V. Pres.

Russ Southworth
Secretary-Treasurer

Paul Greene
Past President

Directors

Autence Bason

Dale Berube

Clark White

Cy Dellinger

Ted Hendrick

Bob Schreiner

Robt Hoadley

Ray McGuire

John Wills

NCNA JOURNAL

Volume 22 number 2 Spring 1996

CONTENTS

1 President's Message
2. John Jay Pittman
5. Birds on Coins
Halbert Carmichael
8. Coin Show Calendar
12. Membership Application

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

It's finally spring after a very bad winter. Ice and snow have hampered shows on several weekends. Green will look nice after so much white. Mark you calendar for the NCNA convention in Greensboto, September 27-29. Las year's show was very successful and we expect great show this year.

The U. S. mint made a significant and welcome chang this year by selling proof sets in bulk early in the year. This lets collectors buy them early and givem them away for special events during the year, a positive development for everyone.

The numismatic market seems to be firming and edging slightly higher. Serious collectors should search hard for hole fillers before the price go higher.

I am sorry to note the passing of a landmark: John J. Pittman. John was a native North Carolinian who never forgot his roots and shared the knowledge and joy he gained from his world travels with us on numerous occaisions. We all send our condolences to Gehring and their family.

As always pleas let your officers and directors know of your ideas and suggestions for our organization. And patronize our advertizers. They subsidize the costs of the Journal, keepingour dues from increasing.

Will Jordan
President

NORTH CAROLINA
NUMISMATIC SPEAKERS BUREAU

Education is an important part of numismatics. Coin clubs can enhance their programs by offering a variety of educational programs. North Carolina is fortunate to have a number of experts in various fields of numismatics who have expressed a willingness to share their knowledge with fellow coin collectors throughout the state. See directions at the end for arranging for speakers. The following titles are available.

Coins of Biblical Times: Biblical times are brought alive with a variety of contemporary coins that are either mentioned in the Bible or were issued by locations important to its history. Aaron Bass, Raleigh, 919-828-3553

Birds on Coins: Collecting coins with a theme allows numismatics to be connected with a number of other hobbies. A number of the surprising variety of birds that have been used in coin designs since ancient times will be shown. Halbert Carmichael, Raleigh , 919-832-4128

Coal Mine Scrip: After loading his "sixteen tons", many an Appalachian coal miner was paid with metallic scrip usable only at the company store. Numerous varieties of this close-to-home numismatic field are illustrated by a native of the West Virginia coal fields. George Roger, Wake Forest, 919-556-1994

Communion Tokens: John Calvin first introduced the communion token at the Council of Geneva, January 20, 1560, to approve their use in order to prevent the profanation of the Lord's Table. It was in Scotland that the token practice took its deepest roots. Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians, and Baptists used both metal tokens and cards. All denominations, except the Catholics, have used the token and they have been traced all around the world.. Autence Bason, Greensboro, 910-273-0384

The English Penny: The lowly English penny is the oldest denomination in use in the world today. It dates back to the

8th century. The talk outlines thehistory of the penny and how it illustrates the history of our mother country. Examples are illustrated on slides. Halbert Carmichael, Raleigh, 919-832-4128

How Fast Are We Loosing Our Common Cents: Your pocket change MAY contain rarities but it certainly contains information about economic life in the United States today. A careful analysis of several hoards turns up some surprising facts. Halbert Carmichael, Raleigh , 919-832-4128

Liberty Seated Coins: Christian Gobrechts's beautiful design graced more types of our coins for a longer period of time than any other. The varieties of this important series will be illustrated and discussed.. Robert Izydore, Durham, 919-383-2179

Love Tokens: Many a sweetheart was presented with a simple token of affection made of grinding off one side of a silver coin and engraving a name, date or an inscription. A wide variety of coin types and inscriptions are represented. Autence Bason, Greensboro, 910-273-0384

Mayflower Pilgrims: The Pilgrim venture and the perilous voyage to America on the Mayflower in 1620 has been commemorated over the past 375 years by medals issued by various mints in the United States, Canada, England and other foreign countries. Russ Southworth, Greensboro, 910-299-5262

Treasure Coins of South America: The long and turbulent history of South America is reflected in its rich coinage from Spanish colonial times through to the 20th Century. Alex Armstrong, Mebane, 919-644-8303

Coin clubs should contact speakers directly. It is advantageous to make arrangements well in advance, because it is often possible for speakers to fit a talk into other travel plans. The host club would be expected to help with the speaker's travel expenses.

Autence Bason,
Chairman, Speakers Bureau

JOHN J. PITTMAN

Numismatist Extraordinaire

As most of you must know by now John J. Pittman died in February after a long illness. Ill health, and nothing else, would keep John away from coin shows. I last saw him at the Florida United Numismatists show in early January where the family hosted a reception for John's many, many friends.

John was a native North Carolinian and a life-long admirer of the Tar Heel state. John grew up in Rocky Mount and attended the University of North Carolina. He obtained a degree in Chemicall Engineering. Yes, Chapel Hill did have an Engineering School which was a victim of the depression. John's was one of the last Engineering degrees granted in Chapel Hill.

John worked first for American Enka and then for many, many years for Eastman Kodak. John's numismatic interests travels covered the world. He was at one time simultaneously President of the American Numismatic Association, President of the Canadian Numismatic Association and Honorary President of the Society Numismatica de Mexico, a feat that will never be duplicated. He was honorary lifemenber #2 of NCNA and livened many an NCNA convention with his stories..

John was full of stories and filled many an evening with tales of old times, and new. A perceptive businessman and long-time member of the Board of Governors of the ANA, he fought long and hard for restraint in the expenditures of the ANA.

John was enthusiastic about numismatic education and contributed non-competitive exhibits to many a show. I particularly remember the complete set of Charlotte gold at the mid-winter (and it was winter) ANA convention in Charlotte in 1987. He also seemed to have an infinite supply of pocket pieces. The first time I met him he was passing around a portcullis dollar at a Carolina World Coin Association meeting.

One of John's best stories was about Canadian customs. A frequent traveler to Canada and a stickler for following the rules, John replied "Yes" when Canadian customs asked if he had anything to declare. When the customs agent approached his car at the inspection station John asked, "What do you want to see?"

The agent replied, "Your star dollar, Mr. Pittman."

Our condolances go to Gehring and the rest of John's family.

No._____ Date Received _____
(for use of Secretary)

APPLICATION
FOR MEMBERSHIP
NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSN., INC.

_____
DATE

Mr.
Mrs.
Miss _____
(Please Print Full Name)

_____
Address Street

_____
City State Zip

_____
Date and Year of Birth

_____
Occupation

_____
Numismatic Specialty

_____
Club or Society Membership(s)

_____
Signature of Applicant

_____
Signature of Proposer NCNA memb. #

Annual Dues:

Junior Membership (under age 18)	$2.00
Adult Mem	$10.00
Joint with Family Member	$13.00
Club Membership	$10.00
Life Membership	$100.00

Return to: NCNA HEADQUARTERS, PO Box 20653
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27420-0653

TOPICAL COLLECTING

Birds on Coins

Halbert Carmichael

Numismatics is such a vast field that everyone has to specialize in some way. One of the many ways that a coin collector can specialize is topical collecting: Collecting coins that show a particular theme regardless of the source or age of the coin. Themes that can be followed are dates, coins from different dates or all coins from a particular date such as the collector's birth year. Other collectors choose coins with odd shapes, or coins made out of odd metals or combinations of metals. Whole collections have been made of coins that all show women. Animals, particularly horses, elephants, and bears are favorite topics.

As an avid birder (defined by a ranger naturalist at Jasper National Park as a "fanatic birdwatcher"), it was natural to combine my two hobbies. The bird coin collection was the fourth or fifth collection started within our family. It all began when a perceptive coin dealer gave my then five-year-old daughter a Guernsey six pence to entertain her while he and I dickered over the purchase I was making This gift was added to and grew into a collection of animal coins that has since become limited to birds.

I have tried to identify the species of bird shown on each coin collected.It is often a real challenge to identify the species of bird that is represented on a coin. Some delightful debates have developed. Sometimes it is necessary to realize that the design is just a generic bird: usually recognizable as an eagle, or a dove, or a chicken.

Coins with bird designs get produced for a number of different reasons. Several countries such as the United States have used birds as national symbols. The poor bald eagle has been represented and misrepresented on U. S. coins since 1792. The earliest version was so unskillfully done that someone referred to it as a "starved pigeon." Later versions varied from the strictly heraldic version on the Morgan dollar and the

Washington quarter to the stylized art deco version on the Bridgeport Commemorative half dollar. My least favorites are the standing liberty quarter (It looks like a buzzard.) and the Eisenhower dollar (One wing is too small.) My favorites are those represented on the flying eagle cent (modelled after Peter, the bird displayed in the Philadelphia mint) and the walking liberty half dollar. What bird is being represented on US coinage? Presumably the Bald Eagle, but one author made the interesting choice of calling all the birds on U. S. gold coins Golden Eagles.

Mexico has used the bird holding a snake while perched on a cactus as the obverse design on most of its coinage. This was the sign that the Aztecs were given to mark the spot where they founded their capital which became Mexico City. The identity of the bird has raised some questions. The crested caracara is the national bird of Mexico, and some designs hint at a crest. Yet the bird is not as long legged as the caracara. Clyde Hubbard told me that it is universally referred to as an eagle by the Mexicans. It is presumably a Golden Eagle.

Chile has used the Andean Condor in several different versions on many of its twentieth century coins. Other national symbols exist and have been used as one design on sets of coins. Burma's 1852 set with peacocks and German New Guinea with a beautiful bird of paradise come to mind. I tend to ignore the heraldic birds such as the double headed eagles of Austria and Russia and mythological birds such as the phoenix on some coins of Korea and the garuda of Cambodia.

Most intriguing are the birds that appear in ones and twos in the circulating coinage of modern nations. The Huia, a wattled bird with a long bill appeared on the six pence of New Zealand in 1923. This bird gave me fits when I tried to identify it using guides to New Zealand birdlife. The bird has been extinct since the end of the last century. The Kiwi also appeared on the florin in 1923 and in slightly changed form has

Continued on Page 12

COIN SHOW CALENDAR

LOCAL CHAIRMEN PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR, Box 5625, Raleigh, NC 27650 of your plans as soon as possible to avoid conflicts. Information transmitted in writing is safer, but between issues inquiries and information can be recieved during evening hours at 919-832-4128. or during business hours at 919-515-2995.

MAY 1996

4-5 Winston-Salem Coin Club, Elk Lodge, Silas Crk. Pkwy, Winston-Salem, Dale Berube, Box 30106, Winston-Salem NC 27130

4-5 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, 5534 South Blvd, Charlotte NC 27217

4-5 Pee Dee Coin Club, Holiday Inn, Florence SC Artie Quick, Box 23, Florence SC 29503

11-12 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Creek Ridge Rd., Greensboro NC, Linda Pridgen, Box 10678, Greensboro NC 27404

31- Jun 2 Parker Coin Club, Holiday Inn, Roper Mtn. Rd., Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 W. Parker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

JUN

7-9 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

14-16 Maryland State Numismatic Assn, Convention Center, Baltimore MD, Tom Palmer, Box 6533, Baltimore MD 21219

21-23 International Paper Money Show, Cook Conv Center, Memphis TN, Mike Crabb, Box 17871, Memphis TN 38187

29-30 Raleigh Coin Club, Scott Bldg, St. Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Halbert Carmichael, Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650

JUL

12-14 Metro Washington Num Soc, Ramada Inn, New Carrolton MD, Paul Singleton, Box 894, Annandale VA 22003

13-14 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Creek Ridge Rd., Greensboro NC, Linda Pridgen, Box 10678, Greensboro NC 27404

AUG

22-25 Blue Ridge Numismatic Assn, NW Georgia Trade Center, Dalton GA, Halbert Carmichael, Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650

SEP

13-15 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

27-29 North Carolina Numismatic Assn, Village Green, W. Meadowview, Greensboro NC, Cy Dellinger, Box 25156, Charlotte NC 28229, 704-568-2897

27-29 Virginia Numismatic Soc, Tyson's Westpark Hotel, McLean VA, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandal VA 22003

OCT

5-6 Piedmont Triad Coin & Stamp Show, American Legion Hall, Creek Ridge Rd., Greensboro NC, Linda Pridgen, Box 10678, Greensboro NC 27404

25-27 South Carolnina Numismatic Assn, Hyatt Regency, Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 W Pareker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

31-Nov 3 Peach State Coin Show, Cobb Galleria, Smyrna GA, Larry Jackson, Box 76482, Altanta GA 30358

NOV

15-17 Suburban Washington, Baltimore Conv Center, Ed Kuzmar, Box 4049, Boca Raton FL 33429

16-17 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Holshouser Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

23-24 Cape Fear Coin Club, Holiday Inn Bordeaux, Fayetteville NC, John Wills, Box 40632, Fayetteville NC 28309

JAN 1997

MAR

7-9 Suburban Washington, Baltimore Conv Center, ,

15-16 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Holshouser Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

JUN

13-15 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12025, Raleigh NC 27605

28-29 Raleigh Coin Club, Scott Bldg, St. Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Halbert Carmichael, Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650

AUG

7-10 Blue Ridge Numismatic Assn, NW Georgia Trade Center, Dalton GA, ,

SEP

12-14 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

26-28 North Carolina Numismatic Assn., Village Green, Meadowview, Greensboro NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Rialeigh NC 27605

NOV

14-16 Suburban Washington, , ,

15-16 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Holzhouser Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

27th ANNIVERSARY COIN SHOW

Winston-Salem Coin Club

May 4 & 5, 1996

Saturday, 10 AM to 6 PM
Sunday, 10 AM to 5 PM

Winston-Salem Elks Lodge

Silas Creek Pkwy next to Hanes Mall

Dick Newsome

Bourse Chairman

(910)-924-9676 (night)

1-800-476-8787 ext 100 (day)

RALEIGH COIN CLUB COIN & STAMP SHOW

29-30 Jun 1996

Scott Building
State Fairgrounds

RALEIGH

General Chairman: Ted Hendrick
Phone 919-828-9450

Bourse Chairman: Halbert Carmichael
Box 5625, Raleigh NC 27650
Phone: 919-832-4128

Free parking
Free admission

BIRDS ON COINS, continued from page 7
reappeared on the decimal coinage.In 1932 The Tui, or parson bird, was used on New Zealand's large penny from 1940 until decimalization.

Ireland's first coinage as an independent nation was issued in 1928 and included a diving Woodcock on the farthing and a charming Hen and Chicks on the large penny. .

One of the most charming designs was the wren that appeared on the British farthing in 1936. Distinctive and totally out of character with the heraldic designs used before and the historical designs used since, the perky little wren perched in people's pockets until the farthing was demonetized in 1956.

South Africa's 1923 coinage included a stylized representation of two sparrows on the farthing, a charming reference to Matthew 23:1 in which Jesus refers to God caring for the sparrows that are sold "two for a farthing in the market." It would be interesting to see what monetary unit was mentioned in the original Greek text. South Africa has more recently used the Stanley Crane on its decimal coinage(1965-1992).

Other birds appearing in ones and twos are the Norwegian set issued for King Olav V. The two ore showed a blackcock (missidentified in an exhibit at the Smithsonian as a caparcaillie) and the siberian tit on the ten ore. Guernsey has used a gannet a large white seabird on its one new pence coin and the Isle of Man a very similar seabird, the Manx Shearwater of course, on its one penny coin.

Barbados used a seagull, Gambia a francolin (a kind of grouse), Tanzania the ostrich, Bermuda the tropicbird, Gibralter the barbary partridge, Malta the blue rock thrush, and Croatia the nightingale. Macedonia a landlocked fragment of what was Yugoslavia raised some eyebrows when it issued a coin with a seagull soaring over some islands. The Greeks who want to make certain that Macedonia does not claim their province of the same name which does have a coastline, were not amused.

Several countries have issued entire sets using a series of birds for all the reverses. Indonesia issued a four coin set in 1970 that showed four different birds native to that island nation. Indonesia has also issued a larger set of banknotes with bird design. In 1973 the British Virgin Islands began issuing an eight coin set with birds such as a hummingbird, a dove, a kingfisher, a cuckoo, a pelican, and a frigatebird. These coins were designed by Gilroy Roberts, the American artist who did the Kennedy half dollar.

In 1974 Belize, a small former British colony in Central America, began issuing a seven coin set with birds. This set included the first coin with a parrot, a scarlet macaw. Both Belize and the British Virgin Islands have subsequently issued larger coins with birds.

Several international series of bird coins have been issued. The first was the Conservation series. This was a world wide effort to attract attention to threatened wildlife. Over a period of six years in the 1970's twenty-four countries issued three coins each: two large silver coins and a one ounce gold coin. Of the seventy-two coins eighteen showed birds.Silver coins came from: Mauritius, Seychelles, Falkland Islands, Gambia, Jordan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sudan, Afghanistan, Malaysia, Tanzania, Gold coins came from Jordan, Mauritius, Seychelles, Thailand, and Venezuela. These coins were sold by subscription and are found only in ones and twos in the after market. One ounce gold coins are not cheap.

More recently many microstates have taken to issuing large silver coins with rare birds.

If you want to pursue this specialty, I maintain a checklist of birds on coins which lists almost 400 different coin designs using birds. Included are about 250 different identifiable species. Dennis Rainey, a retired zoology professor in California maintains a list that he is able to keep more up-to-date than mine. On the other hand, he does not list any, tokens, fantasies, or ancients.

We Buy and Sell Coins

A & B COINS

P. O. Box 21066 - Greensboro, N. C. 27420
(910) 272-0384

Autence Bason Baxter Bason

Specializing in Quality
Coins for the Collector
and Investor

John Wills Rare Coins

Member: ANA, FUN, GNA, NCNA, SCNA

UCB PLAZA
4200 Morganton Rd., #200-16
P. O. Box 40632
Fayetteville, NC 28309

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
(910) 864-9669

MEMBER
ANA
NCNA

BUY-SELL-TRADE
APPRAISALS

K-KOINS
P.O. BOX 736
SANFORD, N. C. 27330

KEVIN C. KIRKMAN **(919) 775-2384**

Custom Refiners of Precious Metals
Scrap Gold & Silver
Bullion

Coins & Commemoratives
North Carolina's Largest Dealer of
NASCAR Racing Collectibles

AUREUS LTD

PO Box 5384
Greensboro NC 27435
Phone:(910) 273-1811(O) 547-0025(H)

Joe Wood: Member: NCNA, ANA, FUN, ASM, and Silver & Gold Inst.

BUY **ESTATES APPRAISED** **SELL**

United States Currency (large & small)
Confederate Banknotes
Obsolete Currency
National Notes

Jim Sazama

P. O. Box 1235
Southern Pines, N. C. 28388

Phone: Evenings
910-692-9357 (H)

WANTED

casino chips

CALL – ROBERT A. HOADLEY – 919–833–1085

J Douglas Mattox
Coins & Stamps

Phone: (919) 832-2291 FAX (919) 833-4754
P. O. Box 12084, Raleigh N. C. 27605
Located in the Cameron Village Post Office Building

(540) 943-CAMP

BUY-SELL-APPRAISE

CAMP'S RARE COINS
WILL CAMP

SERVING COLLECTORS AND DEALERS
FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS

P.O. BOX 283
FISHERSVILLE, VIRGINIA 22939

Buying Coins: Gold-Silver-Foreign

Jim Pappas

J. P. Coins

301-384-4715 P. O. Box 4524 Silver Spring MD 20904

RAINBOW COINS

Will Jordan

ANA-LM, BRNA-LM, NCNA-LM, TSNS, SCNA
Serving the Collector. in Coins and Postcards
Come visit us in the beautiful N. C. mountains today.

114 4th Ave West, Hendersonville NC 287392(704) 697-6661

COINS

The Penny Man --- Jack Amariglio
2012 1/2 Fairview Rd., Suite 6
Raleigh, N. C. 27608

Bus FAX (919) 832-2309
(919) 467-1662

NCNA JOURNAL ADVERTISING RATES

1/4 page $16 per issue or $50.00 per year
1/2 page $25 per issue or $80.00 per year
full page $45 per issue or $150.00 per year

Advertising Manager: Steve Martin
919-774-7030

Specializing in Quality
Coins for the Collector
or Investor

U.S. Coins
Buy-Sell
Appraise

Martin's Rare Coins

207-A Gordon Street
Sanford, N. C. 27330

Gold & Silver
Bullion

Steve Martin
(919)-774-7030

WANTED

ALL STATE, OBSOLETE, CONFEDERATE, COLONIAL & PRIVATE NOTES

alsoCounterfeits
LoRan Ross
2504 Haile Street
Camden, South Carolina 29020
803-432-0072

Harry Laibstain Rare Coins & Jewelry

Certified Coin Marketmaker
CoinNet VA16

★ **Over 800 Certified Coins In Stock** ★
★ **Call for FREE Price or Inventory List!** ★

Authorized Dealer Submission Center:
PCGS • NGC • ANACS

★ **Buying Coins – Certified/Uncertified** ★
★ **Buying Diamonds – 1/2 CT & Larger** ★

Toll-Free: (800) 869-1869 • Local: (804) 873-6720
Fax: (804)-873-1977
11817 Canon Blvd, #202 • Newport News, VA 23606

NCNA JOURNAL
BOX 5625
RALEIGH NC 27650

FIRST CLASS

Address correction requested